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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Transportation department plans 40 highway construction projects in eastern Idaho

RIGBY - The Idaho Transportation Department plans 40 highway construction projects in eastern Idaho this year.

Projects will include:

- resurfacing U.S. 20 between the south Rexburg Interchange (Exit 332) and the South Fork Teton River Bridge,
- rehabilitating U.S. 20 on the Ashton hill north of Ashton,
- resurfacing U.S. 20 between Island Park Lodge and the Montana line,
- replacing the Del Rio Bridge on the U.S. 20 business loop east of St. Anthony, and
- replacing two bridges at the confluence of East Fork Salmon River on Idaho 75 southwest of Challis.

Crews also will resurface eight miles of southbound Interstate 15 between Dubois and Beaver Creek, and improve the intersection of Idaho 31 and Idaho 33 in Victor, adding a traffic signal and other improvements.

Rounding out the project list, crews will install a permanent weigh-in-motion sensor system on U.S. 20/26 near Butte City, replace railroad crossings in St. Anthony and Menan, repair and paint Pine Creek Bridge on Idaho 31 north of Swan Valley, stabilize river banks around the Pahsimeroi River Bridge near Ellis, upgrade signs and guardrail, crack seal stretches of highway, stripe and fence I-15 south of Idaho Falls.

Estimated cost of the projects is approximately \$37.5 million. The work will enhance and preserve state highways, improving safety and providing a smoother ride for motorists. Projects will begin once contracts are awarded, construction is arranged and weather allows.

Click here for a map showing locations of the upcoming projects.

Highway construction is one of the key forces pushing Idaho toward full economic recovery by creating jobs, improving safety and reducing traffic congestion.